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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116 – EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

Serial Number: 10/728,655

Filing Date: December 5, 2003

Title: FLAT CAPACITOR HAVING STAKED FOILS AND EDGE-CONNECTED CONNECTION MEMBERS

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**PENDING CLAIMS**

1-35. (Canceled)

36. (Previously Presented) A method of coupling a plurality of anode connection members of a capacitor, the method comprising:

attaching an L-shaped anode connection member to two or more of a plurality of anodes such that a first section of the L-shaped anode connection member is attached to a major surface of the two or more of a plurality of anodes and a second section of the L-shaped anode connection member overhangs an edge face of the two or more of a plurality of anodes;

positioning each of the anode connection members so that each anode connection member is flush with each other anode connection member or connection members adjacent to each anode connection member; and

edge-connecting each anode connection member to the anode connection member or connection members adjacent to each anode connection member directly along an exposed end face of each of the connection members.

37. (Original) The method of claim 36, wherein edge-connecting comprises laser welding along a seam between each of the anode connection members.

38. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 36, wherein each of the plurality of connection members having a cut-out adapted to matchably fit within a notch on an anode.

39-51. (Canceled)

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52. (Previously Presented) A method of assembling a capacitor, the method comprising:

assembling two or more anode stacks by a method comprising:

staking an L-shaped connection member to only a first anode foil by a first stake weld using a staking tool to force the first anode foil into the tab; and

staking the first anode foil to a second anode foil by a second stake weld;

stacking the two or more anode stacks into a capacitor stack so that each L-shaped anode connection member is flush with each other L-shaped anode connection member or connection members adjacent to each L-shaped anode connection member; and

welding each anode stack connection member to each other adjacent anode stack connection member by edge-connecting each anode connection member to the anode connection member or connection members adjacent to each anode connection member directly along an exposed end face of each of the L-shaped connection members.

53. (Original) The method of claim 52, wherein staking the first anode foil to the second anode foil comprises forcing the first anode foil together with the second anode foil with a staking pin having a tip diameter less than approximately 0.060" (1.524 mm).

54. (Original) The method of claim 52, wherein the first anode foil and the second anode foil each comprise an anode foil having a porous structure and a formation voltage of greater than approximately 441 volts.

55. (Original) The method of claim 52, wherein welding each anode stack connection member to each other adjacent anode stack connection member comprises edge-welding the connection members together.

56.-84. (Canceled)